

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3-5, and 8 are now pending in the application with Claims 2, 6, 7, and 9-14 withdrawn from consideration pursuant to Applicants' election of Species I filed on 12/01/2003. By this amendment, Claim 1 has been amended. The basis for this amendment can be found throughout the specification, claims, and drawings originally filed. No new matter has been added. The preceding amendment and the following remarks are believed to be fully responsive to the outstanding Office Action and are believed to place the application in condition for allowance.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejections in view of the amendments and remarks contained herein.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1, 3-5 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Applicant Admitted Prior Art (figs. 14-15) (AAPA hereinafter) in view of Kazuo (JP #61-256237) and further view of Aloni et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,360,005).

This rejection is respectfully traversed. Notwithstanding, claim 1 is amended to recite the subject matter deemed to be allowable by the Examiner with respect to claim 8. In as much as the Examiner previously considered this subject matter, only a cursory review is required to determine patentability. This amendment does not raise new issues requiring further consideration and/or search.

Independent Claim 1 calls for a method for examining foreign matters in through holes formed in a work piece, whereby light is passed through a plurality of through holes having a uniform size and is taken as image data by "relative movement between

the work piece and a line sensor camera.” See Specification at pg. 4, Paragraph [0014].

The Examiner has noted that the limitation of relative movement between a work piece and a line sensor camera obviates the argument that movement of a camera achieves a similar result. See Office Action at pg. 4. Furthermore, Applicants note that the Examiner has admitted that Kazuo does not disclose translation movement of a line sensor camera. See Office Action at pg. 2. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that AAPA in combination with Kazuo fails to teach or suggest the claimed invention.

Because Kazuo does not disclose relative movement between the work piece and a line sensor camera, and none of the cited references cures this deficiency on Kazuo, Applicants’ invention is not taught or suggested by the prior art and reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

In this manner, it is believed that independent Claim 1, as well as Claims 3-5, dependent therefrom, are in a condition for allowance in light of the art of record. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

Applicants acknowledge the allowance of Claim 8.

CONCLUSION

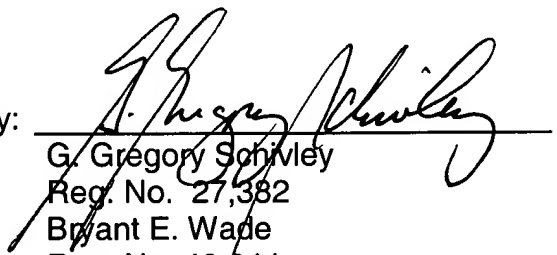
It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request

that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

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By: _____


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